Appln. No. 09/536,051 Amendment dated September 9, 2004 Reply to Office Action of July 29, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The July 29, 2004 Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are cancelled and amended, and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

Inasmuch as the present Amendment raises no new issues for consideration, and, in any event, places the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for consideration on appeal, its entry under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116 are respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the Office Action, claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, 11, 13-19, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by USP 6,665,095 (Janssen).

In response, claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, 11, 13-19, 21 and 22 are cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) moot.

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ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Examiner's indication that claims 4, 8, 9, 12 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is acknowledged and appreciated. In response, claims 4, 8, 9, 12 and 20 are amended to be in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and the intervening claims. In view of the amendment of claims 4, 8, 9, 12 and 20, these claims are in form for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

The Examiner's indication that claim 23 is allowed is acknowledged and appreciated.

CLAIM FEE

Submitted herewith is a check in the amount of \$254.00 for the presentation of three (3) independent claims above the highest number of independent claims for which payment was previously made. If any additional fees are due or if any overpayment has been made, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 06-1378 for such sum.

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Entry of this Amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Poert R Michalleg. No. 35,614

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RPM/ms

Encl.: Check in the amount of \$254.00